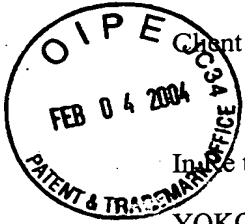


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OC
6 Feb 04

Docket Number: 009270/0284004

PATENT APPLICATION

Client Reference: 4CG32697-USA-AT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

YOKO TANAKA

Group Art Unit: 2151

Application No.: 09/977,218

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Filed: October 16, 2001

Confirmation No.: 3671

For: SERVICE PROVIDING METHOD AND SERVICE PROVIDING SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Patent Application
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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FEB 05 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application in the attached European Communication (Search Report) issued December 18, 2003. An English language version of the foreign office action is attached for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully submitted,

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Registration Number 28872

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□□



PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Complete if Known

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of
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Application Number	09/977,218
Filing Date	10/16/2001
First Named Inventor	YOKO TANAKA
Art Unit	2151
Examiner Name	UNKNOWN
Attorney Docket Number	009270-0284004

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (If known)				
	1	EP 0 949 595 A2	10/1999	PAN et al.		X
	2	FR 2 777 673	10/1999	bull	Abstract	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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